

Planning for Seattle's Sustainable Future



Climate Action Plan & Comprehensive Plan

Welcome

Agenda/format for evening

- Brief overview of Climate Action Plan and Comprehensive Plan
- Short trivia questions on specific topic areas
– using the remotes
- More thought provoking discussion questions at your table

Climate Action Plan Overview



- Plan Goal: Carbon Neutral by 2050
- Focused on Emissions most directly in the City's policy sphere
 - Transportation
 - Building Energy
 - Land Use
 - Waste
- Emissions related to our goods & services
- Adaptation



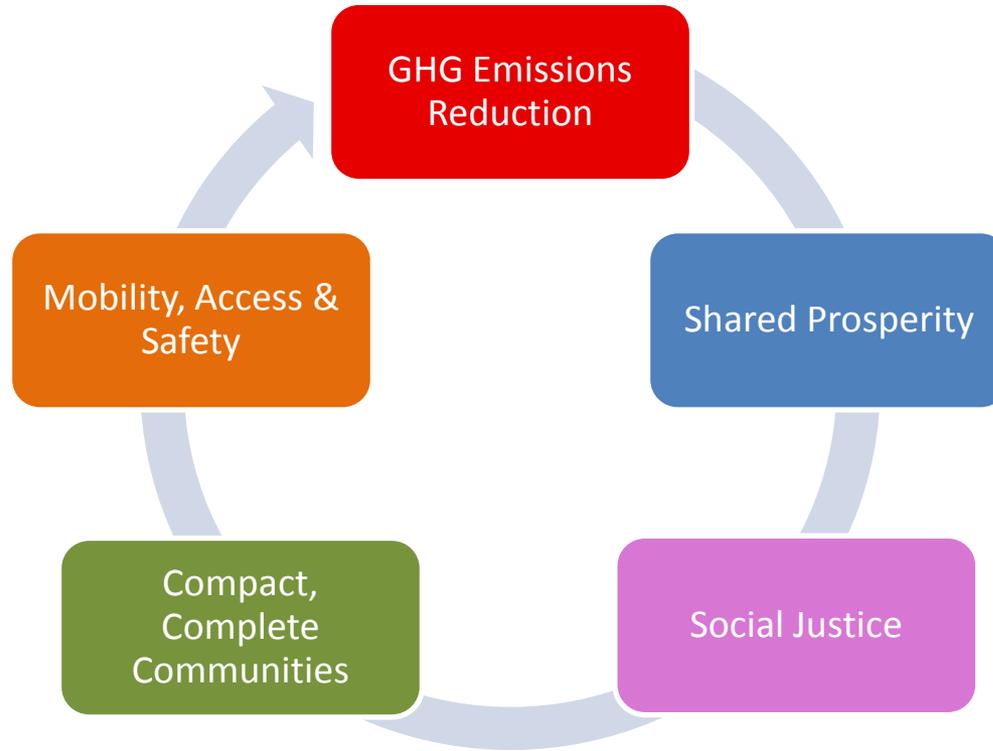
Transportation & Land Use

CONTEXT

- Road transportation represents 40% of Seattle's GHG emissions
- Over 100,000 new residents are expected by 2035
- Recent trends in auto ownership are shifting
- Growth creates opportunities to shape our land use and transportation to foster quality of life & GHG emissions reductions



Evaluation Framework



Strategy Categories

TRANSPORTATION

- Planning & management
- Bicycle, pedestrian, and transit infrastructure & services
- Transportation demand management
- Congestion pricing
- Parking management
- Vehicle fuels & technology



Strategy Categories

LAND USE

Land use recommendations to reduce GHG emissions from transportation

- Policy & Planning
- Zoning
- Incentives & Outreach
- Parking



Building Energy

CONTEXT

- Buildings account for over 20% of Seattle's greenhouse gas emissions.
- Improving energy efficiency and using cleaner, low carbon fuels are key to reducing GHGs.
- Strategies focused on energy efficiency in new construction and existing buildings and infrastructure to better utilize low-carbon fuels.



Strategy Categories

BUILDING ENERGY

- Pricing and Financing
- Efficient Operations
- Efficient Construction
- Infrastructure for Low-Carbon Fuels



Waste

CONTEXT & STRATEGIES

Context

- Lifecycle perspective
- Community commitment
- SPU Solid Waste Management Plan

Strategies

- Recycling and Composting
- Collection, Processing & Disposal
- Source Reduction & Product Stewardship



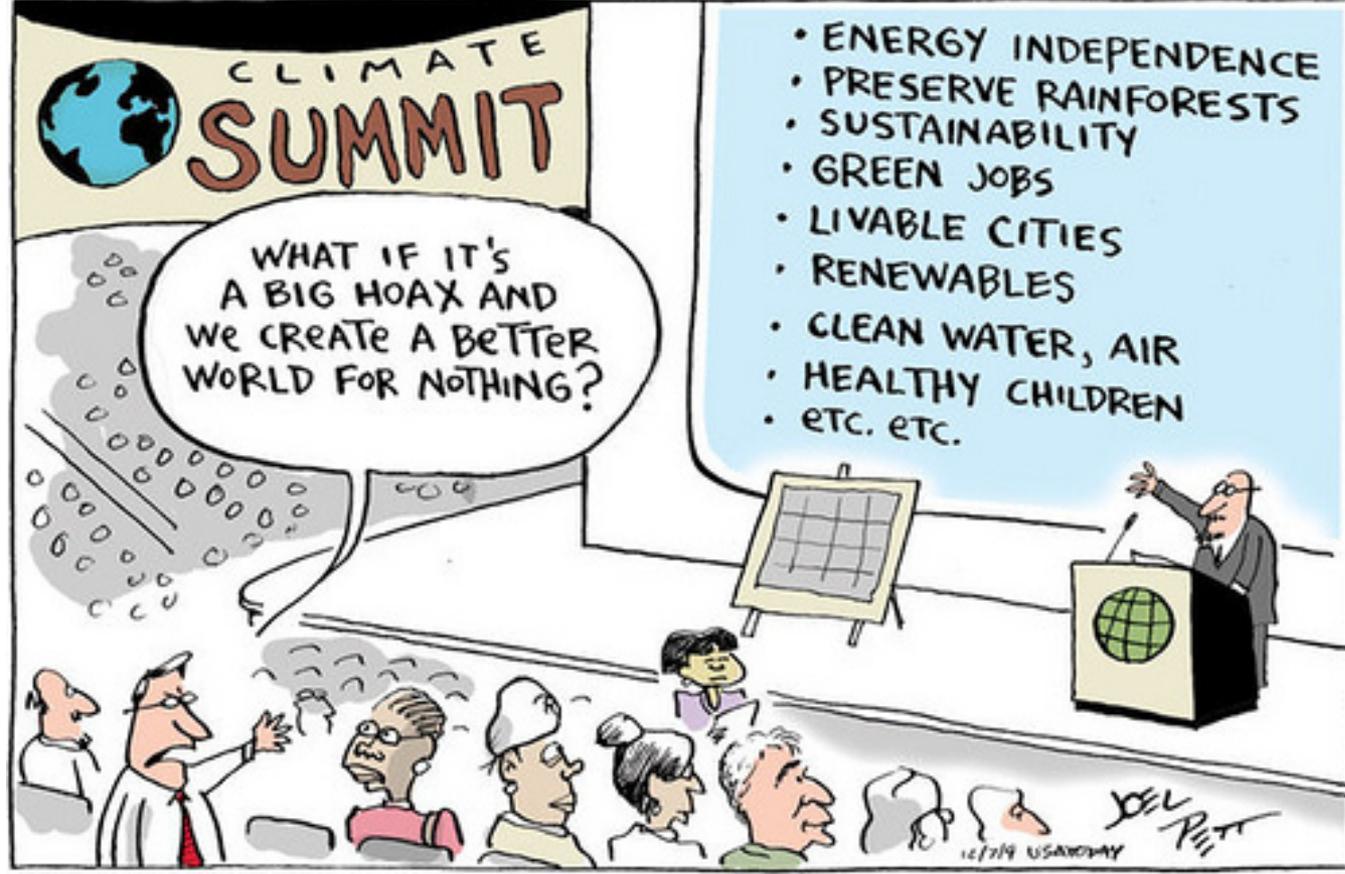
Next Steps

- Finalize TAG recommendations, considering Council and public comments
- Send recommendations to Green Ribbon Commission (spring – fall)
- Outreach seeking comment on TAG recommendations (spring- fall)
- Draft Climate Action Plan public comment (fall)



Planning for Seattle's Sustainable Future

Seattle Climate Action Plan & Seattle Comprehensive Plan



Comprehensive Plan Overview



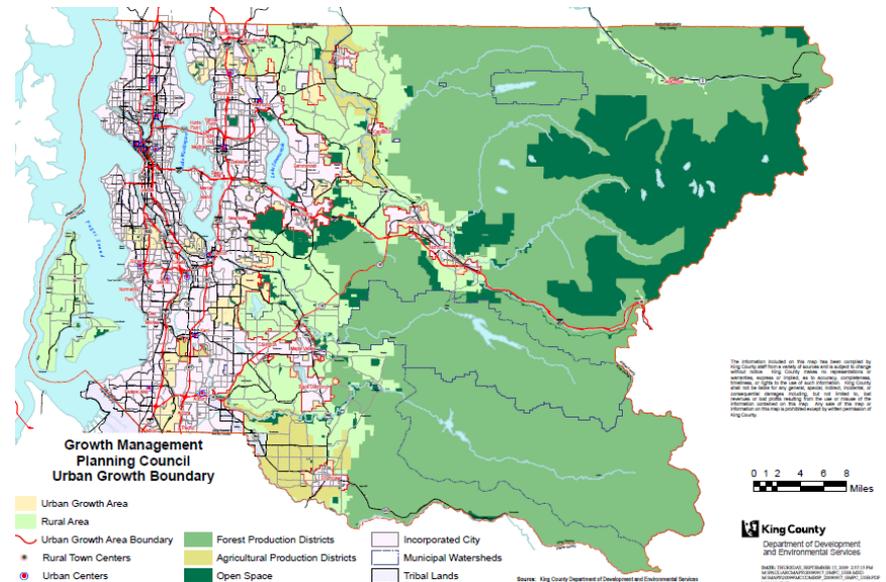
- City first adopted the Comprehensive Plan in 1994
- Urban Village Strategy
- 1994-2011 City has added over 50,000 housing units
- $\frac{3}{4}$ of those in urban centers and urban villages



State Requirements



- State Growth Management Act (GMA) required City to adopt a Plan
- GMA requires periodic major review of Plan
- City's last major review in 2004
- Next required in 2015 (deadline has changed twice)



Urban Design Element



- Broad categories addressed by the Urban Design Element
 - Natural Environment
 - Built Environment
 - Public Spaces

Urban Design Element



Natural Environment

Seattle's character includes unique views and places for outdoor recreation:

- Cascade and Olympic Mountain ranges
- Puget Sound, Lake Washington, Greenlake



Urban Design Element



Built Environment

Seattleites also enjoy high quality public spaces and a range of classic and modern architectural styles:

- Walking and bicycle paths
- Parks and playgrounds
- Downtown and neighborhood libraries
- Public facilities (City Hall, Westlake Park)
- Classic apartments
- Craftsman bungalows



Transit Oriented Communities



Regional Investments in Transit

- 11 LRT stations operating
- 6 more LRT stations planned
- Rapid Ride – 3 routes in 2012
- Potential rail to Ballard
- Transit Master Plan – priority corridors



Transit Oriented Communities



Transit Communities

- Compact, complete neighborhoods near transit
- Walk, bike or take transit for many trips: work, school, errands, shopping, social
- “Essential components of livability”: needed to create great neighborhoods and a high quality of life

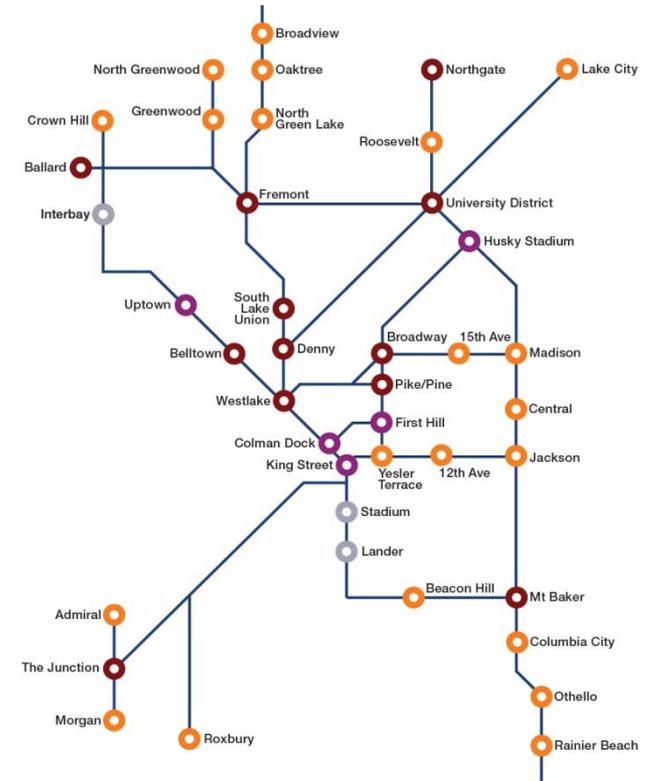


Image courtesy Seattle Planning Commission

Transit Oriented Communities



Benefits

- Health: walking and biking improves health
- Affordability: spend less on transportation
- Climate-friendly: generates less GHG emissions
- Vibrant: customer base to support more varied local businesses
- Efficient: ridership supports cost effective transit service



Transit Oriented Communities



What We're Hearing

- Build on Transit – highest priority theme
- What's important – compact neighborhoods, good transit near housing and jobs, create attractive pedestrian friendly urban places.
- Similar priorities from other processes – PSRC Vision 2040, Climate Action, Transit Master Plan, Aging Your Way





Question & Answer Time!

To vote using the audience response system, choose the letter that matches your answer. You can only pick one letter for each question, so choose the answer that best represents your opinion (A, B, C, D, E, or F).

Do NOT use the big blue button at the top of your remote!

Q: Which is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Seattle?

- A. Building Energy
- B. Road Transportation
- C. Air Transportation
- D. Industry

Answer: Road Transportation

Q: After vehicles, what is the 2nd largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in your household?

- A. Appliances
- B. Food
- C. Clothing
- D. Electronics

Answer: Food

Q: How many pounds of carbon dioxide are released by burning one gallon of gasoline?

- A. About 1 lb
- B. About 5 lbs
- C. About 10 lbs
- D. About 20 lbs

Answer: About 20 lbs

Q: Climate change in the Northwest is likely to result in increases in which of the following?

- A. Number and length of heat events
- B. Flooding
- C. Erosion
- D. Habitat Loss
- E. All of the above
- F. None of the above

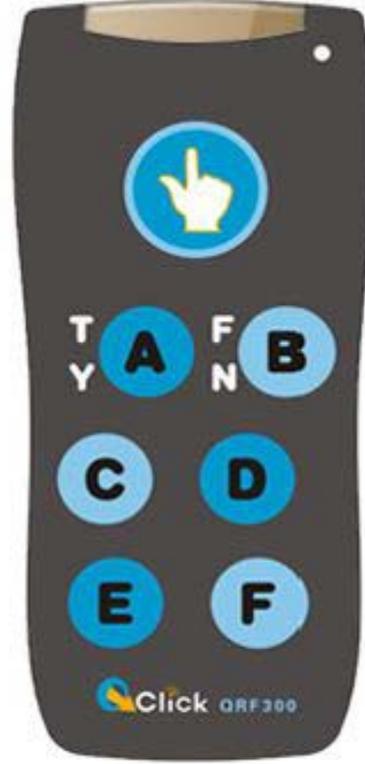
Answer: All of the above

Discussion Questions

1. To reach our climate goals, Seattle needs to increase the number of attractive communities where people can walk to schools, shops, transit and maybe even work. Proven strategies include building taller in the most transit rich neighborhoods and transforming aging commercial into mixed-use development. **Are there other strategies you would suggest for less dense areas near very good transit service?**
2. **We also must find ways to make our homes more energy efficient. Which tool or tools do you think would be the best way to achieve this?**
 - A home energy labeling program (like miles-per-gallon rating on cars)
 - Information on your energy bills about your home's energy use and what you could do to improve it
 - Requirements for meeting certain energy efficiency standards when a home is sold
 - Rebates/low-interest loans to finance upgrades.



2nd Round of Question & Answer Time!



Q. The story of Seattle's natural features is also one of transformation. Which of the following are original conditions and not the result of massive engineering projects?

- A. Lakes Union and Washington connected to Puget Sound
- B. Harbor Island
- C. The fifty foot-deep channel of the Duwamish
- D. The depth of Lake Washington
- E. All of the above
- F. None of the above

Answer: None of the above

Q. What percentage of Seattle area do you think is in parks?

- A. 10%
- B. 12%
- C. 16%
- D. 17%
- E. 25%

Answer: 12%.

LA is 10%, San Diego at 17%, San Francisco at 25%

Q. What percentage of Seattle area do you think is in streets?

- A. 8%
- B. 10%
- C. 22%
- D. 26%
- E. 40%

Answer: 26%.

Portland is 40%

Q. Which of these Seattle business districts was once along a streetcar line?

- A. Fremont
- B. Columbia City
- C. Lake City
- D. Morgan Junction
- E. All of the above
- F. None of the above

Answer: All of the above

Discussion Questions



1. What are the physical qualities that make Seattle Seattle?
2. How can we design the future Seattle so that we enhance its unique qualities while continuing to grow?

3rd (and final) Round of Question & Answer Time!



Q. One of the most desirable local businesses is a grocery store. How many households are needed to support a neighborhood grocery store?

- A. 2,500 households
- B. 4,800 households
- C. 7,600 households
- D. Over 10,000 households

Answer: 4800 households.

Q. A recent national survey found that Americans want to live in a walkable neighborhood. What percentage of Seattle neighborhoods have a WalkScore above the national average (54 WalkScore)

- A. 100%
- B. 96%
- C. 83%
- D. 67%
- E. 58%
- F. 30%

Answer: 83%.

Boston and San Francisco are at 100% and Phoenix is at 30%

Q. Which neighborhood has the highest number of people living within a 10 minute walk of a frequent transit stop/station?

- A. Fremont
- B. Columbia City
- C. Lake City
- D. Morgan Junction
- E. Othello
- F. Ballard

Answer: Ballard

Q. Most future household growth in Seattle will be accommodated in multi-family housing. What percentage of Seattle's housing today is in multi-family structures?

- A. 84%
- B. 83%
- C. 54%
- D. 49%
- E. 43%
- F. 32%

Answer: 54%.

San Francisco is at 83% and Vancouver, BC is at 49%

Q. The Puget Sound Regional Council advises local governments to plan for a minimum 10 to 20 dwelling units per gross acre near high capacity transit. Which Urban Village currently has this level of density?

- A. Columbia City
- B. Roosevelt
- C. Crown Hill
- D. All of the above
- E. None of the above

Answer: None of the above.

Discussion Questions



Transit Communities are where people have short walks to shops, transit and other neighborhood services.

1. Which communities in Seattle (or elsewhere) best illustrate this vision of a Transit Community?
2. How can the city support the vision of Transit Communities while preserving neighborhood character and minimizing displacement?

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Thank You!